

(d) if so, the steps taken to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Delhi Police has reported that there are no unauthorised taxi stands in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There have been instances where more than permissible number of vehicles are allowed to operate from Taxi Stands. The Delhi Police conducts special checkings from time to time; where it is found that the prescribed rules have been violated by Taxi Stand owners, Show cause Notices are served on them for termination of their contract.

Freedom Fighter Pension

1546. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of freedom fighters who participated in the Goan Liberation Movement and those availing the facility of the Central pension; and

(b) the number of freedom fighters who have applied for the pension and awaiting clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). No movement-wise record about the number of applicants applied for pension and the number of cases in which pension has been sanctioned is kept. At present no application relating to Goa Liberation Movement is pending for grant of samman pensions under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme.

District Office of Food Corporation of India

1547. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up a District Office of Food Corporation of India at Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present the Food Corporation of India is not in a position to incur recurring and non-recurring expenditure which is likely to arise in opening of a FCI District Office at Madurai.

Backward Classes

1548. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state : the total number of Indian citizens listed as Backward class, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMOOWALIA) : The data pertaining to population belonging to Backward Classes is not available at present because no enumeration has taken place specifically for this particular category.

Tobacco Production

1549. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of specific steps being taken or proposed to be taken to increase the production of tobacco; and

(b) the total production of different kinds of tobacco in each State During the Eighth Five Year Plan, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) In order to increase the production & quality of Virginia Tobacco for export purpose, the Tobacco Board in the Ministry of Commerce, is taking necessary steps for adequate and timely supply of various inputs viz. pure seed, seedlings, fertilizers etc. are made available to the virginia Tobacco farmers. The Tobacco Board is also involved in the transfer of improved production technologies to the farmers.

(b) The Statewise & typewise production during Eighth Plan period is given in the enclosed statement.

STATEMENT

State-wise, Yearwise & Typewise production of Tobacco during the Eighth Five Year Plan

Production in '000 tonnes

Type	State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Virginia	Andhra Pradesh	136.7	101.8	101.1	102.0
	Karnataka	23.8	21.2	20.8	25.0
	West Bengal	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8

1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Non-Virginia	Andhra Pradesh	89.1	86.4	85.2	108.9
	Bihar	9.3	7.4	7.7	19.0
	Gujarat	172.1	179.2	213.2	182.0
	Karnataka	28.6	24.8	24.4	19.0
	Maharashtra	11.8	13.0	12.8	9.4
	Orissa	9.5	6.1	6.3	8.5
	Tamil Nadu	9.4	13.5	9.9	9.2
	Uttar Pradesh	70.6	94.1	90.3	81.2
	West Bengal	12.8	1.1	1.1	10.2

Census 1991

1550. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have the District-wise religion and language table pertaining to the census 1991;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the likely date of its publication?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) District-wise religion data pertaining to the 1991 Census is available.

As regards language data, the same is under scrutiny and finalisation.

(b) The details of religion data are available on floppies. This data is readily available for supply in the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India as well as Census Directorates in the States and UTs.

As regards language data, the same is under scrutiny and finalisation.

(c) For Religion data the question does not arise.

As regards language data, the same is under scrutiny and finalisation.

(d) Religion data is already available.

As regards language data no definite date can be given.

Crimes Against Women

1551. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to newsitem captioned 'Big Jump in Crimes against women' appearing in the *Indian Express*, dated September 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the main reasons thereof;

(c) whether the recently appointed task force has failed to check this menace;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the crimes against women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The increase in crime against women is mainly attributed to sizeable increase in population, rapid urbanisation, increased participation of women economic and related activities, rise in general awareness amongst women regarding their legal rights, change in social and cultural attitudes of people, break up of traditional social systems and institutions like the joint family, etc.

(c) and (d). Investigating crime against women is not a part of the general character of responsibility assigned to the Special Task Force.

(e) The following steps have been taken to curb such crimes :-

(i) offences under the Dowry Prohibition Act have been made cognizable and non-bailable;

(ii) a new section has been added in the Indian Penal Code making the offences of harassment and cruelty to women by their husbands and in-laws a cognizable offence;

(iii) sections 113-A and 113-B have been inserted in the Indian Evidence Act providing for presumption by a court as to abetment of suicide by/dowry death of a married women if cruelty or harassment for dowry is proved;

(iv) inquest by SDM has been made mandatory where death of a women occurs in suspicious circumstances;

(v) In respect of cases of death within seven years of marriage, section 304-B IPC has been inserted to provide for raising a presumption against husband or inlaws, thus shifting the burden of proof to them;

(vi) A special unit for crime against women has been set-up in 1983, which is headed by a Deputy Commissioner of Police to look into such incidents of crime. Apart from this, women cells